Listing of Claims:

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for determining coolant quality of a fuel cell system which comprises a load circuit having an insulation resistance, the method comprising:

determining the insulation resistance of the load circuit; and

determining said coolant quality as a function of determined insulation resistance values.

2.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising defining a first threshold value for the insulation resistance and signaling a need for the replacement of coolant when the insulation resistance is below the first threshold value.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the signaling is via at least one of a visual means and an audio means.

4.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising defining a second threshold value for the insulation resistance and shutting down the fuel cell system when the insulation resistance is below the second threshold value.

5.   (Withdrawn) A method for controlling coolant quality of a fuel cell system which comprises a load circuit having an insulation resistance, the coolant having an electrical conductivity, the method comprising

establishing a relationship between the electrical conductivity of the coolant and the insulation resistance of the load circuit;

determining the insulation resistance of the load circuit to determine the electrical conductivity; and

monitoring the electrical conductivity of the coolant.

6.   (Withdrawn)   The method of Claim 5, further comprising defining a first threshold value for the electrical conductivity and signaling a need for the replacement of coolant when the electrical conductivity is below the first threshold value.

7.   (Withdrawn)   The method of Claim 6, wherein the signaling is via a visual means, a audio means, or both.

8.   (Withdrawn)   The method of Claim 5, further comprising defining a second threshold value for the electrical conductivity and shutting down the fuel cell system when the electrical conductivity is below the second threshold value.

9.   (Withdrawn)   The method of Claim 5, wherein the relationship is $y = 639.04x^{-0.7221}$ wherein y is insulation resistance in kOhm and x is electrical conductivity in $\mu s/cm$.

10-12. (Cancelled)